

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 05201 110951Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 5201

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: ARCHBISHOP IAKOVIS TO SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH
THE PRESIDENT

REF: ATHENS 5098

1. ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS AND THE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL HAVE CONCLUDED THEIR CONFERENCE IN ATHENS AND A BUSY WEEK OF HIGHLY PUBLICIZED ACTIVITIES INVOLVING PRESIDENT TSATSOS, PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND MANY OTHER PROMINENT GREEK OFFICIALS (REFTEL). THE ARCHBISHOP IS NOW VISITING THE PELOPONNESUS, CORFU AND OTHER OUTLYING AREAS BEFORE RETURNING TO ATHENS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL BACK TO THE US.

2. THE ARCHBISHOP TOLD ME THAT HE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THE US ON TUESDAY, JULY 15, AND SOON THEREAFTER TO REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE PRESIDENT FORD. HE SAID THAT HE WISHED TO CONVEY TO THE PRESIDENT HIS IMPRESSIONS FROM THIS VISIT TO GREECE AND THE RESULTS OF HIS TALKS WITH TSATSOS AND CARAMANLIS.

3. COMMENT: ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS DID NOT ASK THAT I REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT FOR HIM TO SEE THE PRESIDENT BUT I AM SURE HE REALIZED THAT I WOULD REPORT TO WASHINGTON HIS INTENTION TO DO SO. I AM OF COURSE NOT AWARE OF ALL THE CONSIDERATIONS AT HOME THAT MIGHT MILITATE FOR OR AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S RECEIVING THE ARCHBISHOP, BUT IN
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TERMS OF US-GREEK RELATIONS AND DOMESTIC REACTION IN GREECE

I WOULD THINK IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE--ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF
THE EXTENSIVE HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION THE ARCHBISHOP AND THE
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL RECEIVED WHILE THEY WERE HERE.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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